AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 17, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Fig. 3 is a flowchart describing in detail generation of an entire-screen composite image explained in step S212 in Fig. 2. Herein, a description is provided assuming that the number of images to be superposed is four. In step S301, the first piece of image is read out of the memory. Next in step S302, blur correction is performed. In a case where the first piece of image is used as a reference, correction processing is not necessary. In step S303, corrected images are superposed. The first piece of image is temporarily stored as it is. In step S304, it is determined whether or not the correction processing is performed to all images. The processing of steps S301 to S304 is repeated until all the corrected images are superposed. After the second piece of image is read in step S301, in step S302 how much the position is deviated compared to the first piece of image is detected. Then, correction is performed for the detected amount of deviation. In step S303, the first piece of image and the corrected second piece of image are superposed. The similar processing is performed for the third and fourth pieces of images. When the fourth piece of image is superposed, the control proceeds from step S304 to step S305, then the image is written in the memory.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 26, line 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Next, details of the composite image generation in units of region, which is explained in step S214 in Fig. 2, are described with reference to the flowcharts in Figs. 10

and 11 as well as Figs. 14A to 14F. In step S1101, an image photographed with flash emission, i.e., the first piece of image in the previous example, is read out of the memory. In step S1102, an entire-screen composite image described in Fig. 3 is read. In step S1103, the threshold value is initialized. As similar to the description in Fig. 6, the threshold value is set in 0. In step S1104, a binary image is read out of the memory. The binary image is the corrected AND image described in Figs. 5 to 8. Thereafter, processing is performed in units of pixel. In step S1105, it is determined whether or not the first pixel value of the binary image is 0. If the pixel value is 0, then the pixel is a background region. Thus, the pixel of the entire-screen composite image is selected in step S1106. If the pixel value is 1, then the pixel is an object region. Thus, the pixel of the image photographed with flash emission is selected in step S1107. These steps are repeated with respect to each pixel. When processing of all pixels of one screen is completed, the control exits from the loop in step S1108. The image obtained herein is the composite image for the threshold value 0. The composite image is written in the memory in step S1109. Next, in step S1111, the setting of the threshold value is incremented by 1, and processing is repeated from step S1104. When the threshold value is incremented one by one and regional composite images for all the threshold values are written in the memory, the control exits from the loop in step s1110. By the foregoing processing, regional composite images for each threshold value are generated.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 29, line 16, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The operation flow in Figs. 14A to 14F is described with reference to the flowchart in Fig. 11. In step S1201, the threshold value is initialized in an appropriate value. Then, the regional composite image for this threshold value is displayed in step S1202. Step S1203 is an electronic dial operation described in Figs. 14A to 14F. In accordance with the dial rotation, a new threshold value is set in step S1204. When a dial operation is not performed, the control proceeds to step S1205. The current mode is confirmed in step S1206. By performing a display-mode changing operation such as a switch depression, the screen can switch between a regional composite image and a binary image. If the currently displayed image is a regional composite image (YES), the screen is switched to a binary-image display in step S1207. If the currently displayed image is a binary image (NO), the screen is switched to a regional-composite-image display in step S1208. If no operation is performed to change the display mode, the control proceeds to the next step. The decision operation in step S1209 is to decide the image to be recorded by an operation such as a switch depression. If a decision operation is not performed, the control returns to step S1203, and waits for one of the threshold value changing operation, the display mode changing operation, or the decision operation. When a regional image to be recorded is decided and the control exits the processing in step S1209, the decided image is recorded in step S1210. Then, all the processing ends.